

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 197254  
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DRAFTED BY EUR/CE:VGRAY:BJR  
APPROVED BY EUR/CE:WMWOESSNER  
SCS:NPELLETREAU  
EUR:RDVINE

-----091402 190016Z /63

O 182331Z YUG 77 ZFF4  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY BERLIN NIACT IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC(VAN NORMAN, ALAN STUART)

SUBJECT: W/W - ARREST OF ALAN STUART VAN NORMAN: DEMARCHE  
IN WASHINGTON

REF: BERLIN 6746 AND LATER

1. DEPARTMENT WILL CALL IN GDR CHARGE MONTAG AND MAKE  
FOLLOWING DEMARCHE TO HIM AT NOON AUGUST 19: - ON  
AUGUST 2, ALAN STUART VAN NORMAN, AN AMERICAN CITIZEN, WAS  
ARRESTED BY GDR AUTHORITIES IN RUDOLSTADT, BEZIRK GERA  
UNDER "STRONG SUSPICION OF HAVING ATTEMPTED TO MISUSE THE  
RIGHT OF TRANSIT WITHIN THE TERRITORY OF THE GDR".

- EMBASSY WAS ONLY INFORMED OF VAN NORMAN'S ARREST BY NOTE  
ON AUGUST 9, AND, DESPITE SUBSEQUENT EXCHANGES OF NOTES AND  
REPEATED REPRESENTATIONS BY EMBASSY OFFICERS INCLUDING THE  
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CHARGE, WE HAVE STILL NOT BEEN GRANTED ACCESS TO VAN NORMAN

- TODAY THE EMBASSY WAS INFORMED BY THE MFA THAT ACCESS TO  
VAN NORMAN CANNOT BE GRANTED UNTIL AUGUST 26.

- THIS DELAY IS UNACCEPTABLE AND CLEARLY INCOMPATIBLE WITH

THE SPIRIT OF BOTH THE VIENNA CONVENTION WHICH STIPULATES  
ACCESS "WITHOUT DELAY" IN SUCH CASES AND THE US-GDR AGREED

MINUTE WHICH CALLS FOR NOTIFICATION AND ACCESS "AS SOON  
AS POSSIBLE".

- MY GOVERNMENT WISHES TO REITERATE ITS DISPLEASURE OVER  
THE HANDLING OF THIS CASE BY THE GDR AUTHORITIES AND  
AGAIN REQUESTS IMMEDIATE ACCESS TO MR. VAN NORMAN, WHO HAS  
NOW BEEN IMPRISONED FOR 17 DAYS.

- IN RESTATING THIS REQUEST, I WOULD LIKE TO POINT OUT  
THE GDR'S ACTIONS IN THIS CASE ARE INCONSISTENT WITH ITS  
STATED DESIRE FOR BETTER RELATIONS AND ARE PARTICULARLY  
INAPPROPRIATE AT A TIME WHEN OUR AMBASSADOR IS JUST  
BEGINNING HIS MISSION AIMED AT IMPROVING THOSE RELATIONS.

- MR. VAN NORMAN'S SITUATION HAS ALREADY BEEN MADE KNOWN  
TO HIS MOTHER AND HAS ATTRACTED THE ATTENTION OF SOME  
MEMBERS OF THE CONGRESS.

2. DURING HIS INITIAL CALL ON FISCHER AUGUST 19,  
AMBASSADOR SHOULD SUPPORT ABOVE DEMARCHE IN APPROPRIATE  
TERMS POSSIBLY RELATING THIS CASE TO NEED FOR US-GDR  
CONSULAR CONVENTION.

3. FYI WE ARE IN TELEPHONE CONTACT WITH VAN NORMAN'S  
MOTHER WHO IS SENDING LETTER TO SON VIA EMBASSY. SENATOR  
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HUMPHREY'S OFFICE HAS EXPRESSED INTEREST IN CASE, AND  
WE ARE KEEPING HIS OFFICE AS WELL AS MRS. VAN NORMAN  
APPRAISED OF LATEST DEVELOPMENTS. END FYI. VANCE

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NNN

\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

## Message Attributes

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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Subject:** W/W - ARREST OF ALAN STUART VAN NORMAN: DEMARCHE IN WASHINGTON  
**TAGS:** CASC, (VAN NORMAN, ALAN STUART)  
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**Review Markings:**  
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